

Record of Decision

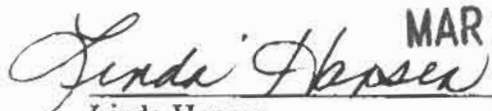
Imperial Sand Dunes
Recreation Area Management Plan

and

Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Plan

Prepared by
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
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 MAR 24 2005
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Recommended
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Date

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Approved
Bureau of Land Management
State Director, California

Date

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision

This Record of Decision (ROD) completes a 7-year long public planning process for the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA). After considering more than 7,000 public comments, the best available scientific and technical information, and results of consultation with Federal agencies, State, local governments, and Indian Tribes, it is the decision of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to approve, with minor modifications, the Proposed Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) and Proposed Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan.

The Proposed RAMP was issued in May 2003 along with the Proposed CDCA Plan Amendment and related Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The minor modifications to the proposed RAMP include:

- Modification of the vehicle use classification for the Adaptive Management Area (AMA) which was identified in the proposed amendment (Alternative 2 of the EIS) as “Limited, except for areas used for controls in the monitoring program, which are Closed.” The monitoring plan does not currently contain control areas and, therefore, no such closures are currently needed. However, in the future, control areas could be added when the monitoring plan is revised or updated.
- Modification of the vendor program. BLM has reviewed the days that vendors are allowed to operate during the holiday periods and is making one adjustment to the schedule. The adjustment is that when a holiday falls on a Monday, the vending for that weekend will begin on Thursday at noon rather than on Friday at noon. BLM will provide a calendar of holidays each year recognizing that the holiday schedule in the EIS/RAMP provides general guidance and the exact days for vending will change based on the day of the week for the holiday depending upon the particular year.

The RAMP and the Proposed CDCA Plan Amendment and Final EIS are available on BLM’s web site at: http://www.ca.blm.gov/elcentro/isdra_feis.html.

Continuation of Temporary Administrative Closure

Due to seasonal factors, regulatory requirements, and on-the-ground work necessary to implement the managerial provisions for the AMA designated in this RAMP, BLM will continue to maintain all the administrative vehicle closures (66 Federal Register 53431, October 22, 2001) affecting approximately 49,300 acres within five separate areas until, at least, October 15, 2005. At that time all of the administrative closures will be terminated and replaced by the requirements of the RAMP, as specified.

Incorporation of Terms and Conditions of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion

This ROD incorporates the terms and conditions of the January 2005 Biological Opinion (BO) issued to BLM by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The full BO will be included in the approved RAMP.

SECTION ONE – APPROVAL OF CDCA PLAN AMENDMENT DECISIONS

Plan Amendment Decisions

Some of the decisions of the RAMP amend the CDCA Plan in accordance with BLM’s planning regulations, 43 Code of Federal Regulations 1601-1610. These decisions are described below:

1. Amend CDCA Plan Multiple-Use Classes (MUC)

The 1980 CDCA Plan established four multiple-use classes to guide management of public lands in the CDCA: Class C (Controlled Use), Class L (Limited Use), Class M (Moderate Use), and Class I (Intensive Use). MUC designations were subsequently incorporated in the 1987 RAMP. This ROD amends some of the previous MUC designations for ISDRA to reflect the new goals, desired future conditions, and management actions for ISDRA. Other MUC designations at ISDRA are unchanged. The following is a description of the previous and amended MUC designations for the eight ISDRA management areas:

Management Area	Previous MUC (1987 RAMP)	Amended MUC (This ROD)
Mammoth Wash	Intensive	Limited
North Algodones Wilderness	Controlled	Controlled
Gecko	Intensive/Limited/Moderate	Intensive
Glamis	Intensive/Limited	Moderate
AMA	Limited	Limited
Ogilby	Limited	Moderate
Dune Buggy Flats	Moderate/Limited	Moderate
Buttercup	Limited/Intensive	Intensive

2. Amend Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Area Designations

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) area designations are established through BLM’s resource management planning process in accordance with regulations, 43 CFR 1610 and 8342, and may include designations of “open,” limited,” or “closed.” These designations are generally consistent with the MUC designation of the CDCA Plan. With a few exceptions, MUC C is closed to motorized vehicles, MUC L limits OHV use to designated routes, MUC M limits OHV use to routes existing at the time of Plan approval, and MUC I generally allows vehicles to travel anywhere.

Prior to this ROD, the south central portion of ISDRA had been designated MUC L and “open” to OHV use under a specific CDCA Plan exception (refer to Table 8, CDCA Plan Motorized Vehicle Element). However, following Federal listing of the Peirson’s milk-vetch as a threatened plant species and subsequent designation of critical habitat by the

FWS, BLM recognized that the previous OHV decisions for this area of ISDRA would not provide sufficient management control to adequately provide for long-term protection of the species or its critical habitat. BLM concluded that carrying forward such designations would not be consistent with a guiding principle of the new RAMP to maintain or improve conditions of the special status species at ISDRA. This area included what is now the AMA.

This ROD amends the OHV designation for the AMA from “open” to “limited.” OHV designations of “open” are carried forward from the 1987 RAMP for all other management areas, except for the wilderness area which remains “closed.”

3. Approval of Special Management Provisions for AMA

The overall management of the AMA, including OHV-related decisions associated with this amendment, is discussed in detail on pages 84-86 of the Proposed RAMP and is summarized below:

The AMA is established to provide a high quality motorized recreational opportunity for All Terrain Vehicle, motorcycle, truck, and dune buggy activities and to protect a variety of sensitive biological resources. The AMA is open to use dawn to dusk from October 15 - March 31 and is closed April 1 - October 14. Completion of a BLM-sponsored educational program is a prerequisite to obtaining a permit for entry into this area. No overnight use is permitted.

The level of recreational use intensity will be adjusted based on scientific knowledge, monitoring of habitat, plants and other species of concern, and BLM professional experience. Initially the level of OHV could be 75 groups (no more than 525 vehicles) per day during the visitation season but, based on monitoring, limits could be adjusted as necessary to achieve the goals (as expressed in the RAMP) for this management area.

4. Expansion of ISDRA Boundary and Modification of Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) Plan Decisions

This ROD expands the ISDRA by approximately 1200 additional acres in the Glamis Management Area. This area is located on the east side of ISDRA immediately south of Highway 78. Previously, this area was managed under the NECO Plan and was designated “limited” for OHV use. NECO also included camping parking setback requirements from roads. This area is largely a former sand and gravel extraction area and has been substantially disturbed.

This ROD modifies OHV and camping decisions previously approved by NECO in this area. The ROD designates 1200 acres open for OHV use in this expanded area and camping will be allowed at all locations.

Related Plan Amendment Actions

1. Response to Protests and Final Decision on Plan Amendment Decisions

Decisions of the RAMP amending the CDCA Plan are effective upon approval of this ROD; however, the temporary administrative closure to motorized vehicles will continue as stated above. The Director has responded to the 11 protests on the RAMP and, in accordance with BLM regulations, 43 CFR 1610.5-2, the decision of the Director is the final decision of the Department of the Interior as to those protests.

2. State of California – Plan Amendment Consistency Review and Determination

In accordance with BLM planning regulations, 43 CFR 1610.3-2, BLM must identify any known inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies, or programs. BLM must also provide the Governor up to 60 days in which to identify any inconsistencies and submit recommendations. The State received a formal request for review of the draft RAMP on May 5, 2002. The State completed its review on June 28, 2002. No known inconsistencies have been identified, either by the BLM or the Governor, for the Plan Amendment decisions.

SECTION TWO - APPROVAL OF RAMP

RAMP Decisions and Related Actions

This ROD approves the Proposed RAMP and replaces the 1987 RAMP. The approved RAMP is prepared in accordance with BLM 8322 manual direction. The following categories of decisions and actions in the RAMP are approved, and are in addition to the plan amendment decisions described in Section One:

1. Approval of ISDRA Goals, Desired Future Condition, Management Actions, and Management Areas

This ROD approves overall guiding goals for management of ISDRA:

- Provide a variety of sustainable OHV and other recreational activities;
- Maintain or improve conditions of the special status species and other unique natural and cultural resources; and
- Create an environment to promote the health and safety of visitors, employees, and nearby residents by working with local, State, and federal agencies and interest groups.

This ROD approves goals for specific programs, resources, or activities (refer to pages 41-55 of the Proposed RAMP for detailed descriptions of the goals):

- Recreation;
- Access and facility development;
- Biological resource;
- Information and interpretative education;
- Commercial activity;
- Funding;
- Health and safety; and
- Cultural resources.

This ROD approves the Area Wide Desired Condition and specific Management Actions for ISDRA (refer to pages 55-62 of the Proposed RAMP).

This ROD approves the establishment of eight Management Areas and related Desired Future Conditions and Management Actions (refer to pages 67-107 of the Proposed RAMP). The Management Areas are: Mammoth Wash, North Algodones Dunes Wilderness, Gecko, Glamis, AMA, Ogilby, Dune Buggy Flats, and Buttercup. The ROD also approves the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) guidelines for each management area, including guidelines for determining the level of development, the types of appropriate facilities, and the intensity of recreational use. The ROS guidelines, described more fully in Chapter III of the Proposed RAMP, are to ensure that recreational settings and experiences at ISDRA are made available over the life of the RAMP consistent with the RAMP's overall and specific goals.

2. Approval of Administrative Actions

This ROD approves the activities of the RAMP relating to the administration of ISDRA, such as the coordination with federal agencies, State, and local governments; development and communication of educational materials and public service information related to public health and safety; development of BLM documents and staffing levels for ISDRA; law enforcement; and other similar administrative activities.

The ROD approves the vendor program, including vendor area and related criteria and management guidelines for its administration.

3. Existing Supplemental Rules Carried Forward

This ROD carries forward all supplemental rules currently in effect for ISDRA. Supplemental rules apply to alcohol use, curfew restrictions and other activities.

4. Development, Operation, and Maintenance of Facilities Identified

The RAMP identifies specific facilities such as campgrounds, bus parking areas, ranger stations, and others. A complete description is included in the Proposed RAMP. These facilities will be developed, operated, and maintained as funding permits. Generally, these facilities require further site specific planning and analysis, including endangered species review, and a final decision issued by BLM before implementation can be initiated. These actions are subject to administrative review, including appeal, in accordance with applicable regulations at the time of the final decision.

Specific facilities identified in the RAMP include:

ISDRA RAMP Wide Area

- Construction of trash collection facilities
- Installation of ozone air meters

North Algodones Dunes Wilderness Management Area

- Wilderness area boundary signing
- Interpretive kiosks

Gecko Management Area

- Expansion of camping pad space
- Construction of fee entry/traffic control area
- Construction of a ranger station
- Construction of an interagency law enforcement facility
- Construction of a maintenance shed
- Construction of a fuel station
- Replacement of residence trailers with permanent housing

- Removal of current ranger station trailer
- Development of additional residential support facilities for ISDRA staff
- Installation of outdoor information and interpretive kiosks

Glamis Management Area

- Construction of pit toilets
- Camping area

Dune Buggy Flats management Area

- Construction of pit toilets

Buttercup Management Area

- Construction of a ranger station
- Construction of an interagency law enforcement facility
- Operation of interpretive area
- Fence development and replacement
- bus parking area

Mammoth Wash, AMA, Ogilby Management Areas

- no facilities identified

5. Provision for Authorization and Use

BLM will continue to administer existing authorizations and uses and will consider future requests consistent with this ROD. A list of the current authorizations and uses for ISDRA is included in Appendix 2 of the Proposed RAMP. Any new authorization or use must be in conformance with the RAMP and subject to site specific analysis. Such authorization and use would be subject to administrative review at the time of issuance of a final BLM decision regarding the authorization or use.

6. Implementation Schedule

This ROD incorporates the implementation schedule contained in chapter IV of the proposed RAMP. The management actions, sequence of implementation, and estimated costs are carried forward in this ROD and are subject to funding. In some cases, the dates of implementation will be approximately two years later than indicated due to delays in completing the FWS' Biological Opinion (BO) for the RAMP.

Management Considerations and Related Actions

1. Rationale

ISDRA's 40-mile long expanse of sand dunes and dramatic desert landscapes provides a unique, world-class recreation opportunity for OHV and other outdoor enthusiasts. ISDRA is also home to many endemic and uncommon plants and animals essential to the area's

environmental quality and offers the opportunity for a wilderness experience, all within a few hours drive of more than 22 million people. Finding a balance between use and protection, while ensuring optimum public health, safety, and visitor services is the key challenge facing BLM in reaching a decision on the RAMP.

The decision is based on the following factors:

- It is consistent with guiding goals for management of ISDRA;
- It maintains or improves conditions of special status species and other unique natural and cultural resources;
- It provides an extensive monitoring program for various species developed collaboratively with the FWS;
- The FWS' conclusion that the RAMP is "not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Peirson's milk-vetch or desert tortoise over the 10-15-year length of the ISDRA RAMP; nor is it likely to destroy or adversely modify critical habitat;"
- Motorized recreation opportunities are provided in seven of the eight management areas within ISDRA, and therefore, the RAMP will continue to provide a variety of sustainable, high quality OHV and other recreational experiences and opportunities;
- Overnight camping with motorized vehicles is allowed in six of the eight management areas; overnight non-motorized camping is allowed in the wilderness area;
- Motorized vehicle use of the adaptive management area is subject to a maximum limit of 525 vehicles per day; the number of vehicles may be adjusted down or reduced based on monitoring of the species and their habitat; and
- Interagency law enforcement efforts are coordinated between federal, State, and local agencies; law enforcement facilities are to be developed at Cahuilla; the portable ranger station would continue to be used as needed at Dune Buggy; and a ranger station would be developed at Buttercup. As a result of these law enforcement actions, public health and safety will be improved for all visitors, agency employees, and nearby residents.

BLM's approval of the RAMP responds to the multiple use requirements as stated in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976: "the use of all California desert resources can and should be provided for in a multiple use and sustained yield management plan to conserve these resources for future generations, and to provide present and future use and enjoyment, particularly outdoor recreation uses, including the use, where appropriate, of off-road recreational vehicles..." [Public Law 94-579 Section 601 (a) (4)]. This decision also reflects the goals that guided BLM in the development of the RAMP which are described at pages 41-54 of the RAMP.

2. Alternatives Considered

Four recreation area management alternatives were analyzed for the Proposed RAMP and EIS. The alternatives were developed by the BLM on the basis of, and in response to, substantive public input on the existing environment, existing uses, desired future uses, and

desired environmental conditions of the ISDRA. The alternatives considered in the EIS are summarized below:

- **Alternative 1: No Action**

Under Alternative 1, the ISDRA would continue to be managed according to the existing and approved management plan and policies (e.g., the 1987 RAMP). In addition, the No Action Alternative would include compliance with policies and management measures instituted since the 1987 RAMP was first implemented, including the designation of the North Algodones Dunes Wilderness Area in 1994 and the release of Wilderness Study Area 362 from further suitability studies. Alternative 1 does not include any of the actions that were proposed in the 1987 RAMP but not implemented prior to 2002. Also, Alternative 1 does not include the temporary OHV closure areas or the temporary camping closure.

- **Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative): Recreation and Natural/Cultural Resource Protection Alternative**

Alternative 2 of the Final EIS is approved by this ROD, with minor modifications as previously described.

- **Alternative 3: Natural and Cultural Resource Protection Alternative**

Alternative 3 would be responsive to public and Tribal input desiring a higher level and more immediate focus on natural and cultural resources in the ISDRA through the application of management actions that would reduce OHV use. Monitoring would still occur under Alternative 3, but no adaptive management program permitting OHV use would be implemented during the life of the RAMP. Because the Adaptive and Mammoth Wash Management Areas would have the same ROS category as the North Algodones Dunes Wilderness Management Area (semi-primitive non-motorized), similar management objectives and actions would apply. This would create uniformity of management direction over a larger area.

- **Alternative 4: Motorized Recreation Opportunities Alternative**

Under Alternative 4, the management actions for the ISDRA would be responsive to public input that emphasizes a need for maximized motorized recreational opportunities. Therefore, management measures would be directed at allowing an increased intensity of OHV activity. The increased intensity of use facilitated by Alternative 4 would serve to accommodate existing and future OHV recreational demand at ISDRA by increasing the overall visitor supply.

3. Environmentally Preferred Alternative

Federal environmental quality regulations (40 CFR 1505.2 (b)) require that an agency identify the “environmentally preferable” alternative or alternatives in the ROD.

Alternative 3 is the environmentally preferable alternative. Alternative 3 would effectively

provide a higher level and more immediate focus on natural and cultural resources in the ISDRA through the application of management actions that would reduce OHV use.

4. Mitigation Measures

Approved mitigation measures were presented in chapter 4 of the final EIS and in the Management Actions section of the Proposed RAMP. All practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm while still meeting the goals, purpose and need requirements for the proposed plan have been adopted.

5. Monitoring Program

The ROD incorporates a comprehensive monitoring program to ensure that implementation of the RAMP achieves the plan's management goals and desired future condition objectives. The monitoring actions may include a resource condition survey, social survey, visitor survey, and OHV survey as well as extensive monitoring program of biological resources.

The monitoring/study plan for biological resources (Appendix 1 of Proposed RAMP) will be modified to be consistent with the January 2005 FWS BO. The BO discusses how BLM and FWS will address results of monitoring and adapt the program to ensure the goals and objectives of the plan and BO are accomplished. The monitoring program for biological resources is a dynamic program. Based on periodic reviews of the quality of the data collected and the usefulness of the data, it will be amended as necessary.

6. Agency and Public Participation

The Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1501.7) and BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610) require an early and open process (scoping) for determining the planning issues. The regulations also require that agencies provide opportunity for public involvement in the planning process, including review of the draft Plan and draft EIS. Extensive efforts have been made to make the public aware of the planning process and of opportunities for involvement.

- **Public Scoping Meetings:** The scoping process for the project was designed to solicit input from stakeholders, the public, and other interested parties on the issues related to the development of a revised RAMP. The BLM initiated public scoping in 1998. Subsequent public scoping activities were conducted in September 2001.

The BLM conducted three public planning meetings and seven public scoping meetings between June 1998 and February 2000 to solicit input from the public. Three subsequent scoping meetings were conducted during September 2001.

The meetings were held at the locations and dates described below:

<u>Initial Public Planning Meetings</u>	<u>Initial Public Scoping Meetings</u>	<u>Subsequent Public Scoping Meetings</u>
1) San Diego, CA June 16, 1998	1) Yuma, AZ January 10, 2000	1) El Centro, CA (50 attendees) September 6, 2001
2) Phoenix, AZ June 22, 1998	2) Long Beach, CA January 12, 2000	2) Phoenix, AZ (300 attendees) September 25, 2001
3) Anaheim, CA June 30, 1998	3) Cahuilla, CA January 14, 2000	3) San Diego, CA (400 attendees) September 27, 2001
	4) Phoenix, AZ January 25, 2000	
	5) San Diego, CA January 27, 2000	
	6) Brawley, CA February 3, 2000	
	7) El Centro, CA February 7, 2000	

The initial Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS was published in the *Federal Register* on October 10, 2001. A subsequent NOI was published for the additional scoping meetings conducted in September 2001. BLM also published notices in newspapers of general circulation of the action. The public scoping meetings were advertised in seven local newspapers: Imperial Valley Press, Desert Sun, San Diego Union Tribune, Los Angeles Times, El Sol del Valle, Arizona Republic, and The Yuma Daily Sun. Other tools used to communicate with interested parties included "The Dunes Newsletter," postcard announcements of meeting dates, and information posted on the BLM website.

- **Public Review of the Draft EIS:** The draft EIS and RAMP were released to the public for a 90-day public comment period, ending June 28, 2002. During this public review period six public meetings were held to explain the EIS and RAMP to the public and to solicit public comment.

The meetings are listed in the table below including the approximate number of participants:

Location	Date
El Centro, CA (92 participants)	April 9, 2002
Long Beach, CA (810 participants)	April 11, 2002
Phoenix, AZ (720 participants)	April 15, 2002
Brawley, CA (86 participants)	April 18, 2002
Yuma, AZ (356 participants)	April 23, 2002
San Diego, CA (522 participants)	April 25, 2002

In addition, several informational workshops were held to explain the documents and the review process to small groups of the public.

BLM received 7,339 comments on the draft RAMP and EIS from the public through public meetings, electronic letters and paper letters. Some 2,778 of the public comments were from members of the public located in California, and 585 were from residents of Arizona. A significant number of comments (over 100 each) were also received from residents of Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin. More than 1000 unique issues or “public concerns” were identified from these comments.

The U.S. Forest Service’s (USFS) Content Analysis Team was contracted to analyze and synthesize public comments into concise “public concern” statements. These statements were grouped into topic and subject groupings through a process developed by the USFS. The advantages of utilizing the USFS Team were twofold: professional expertise using sophisticated methodology and independent review. These reports allow analysts to identify a wide range of public concerns, analyze the relationships among them, and summarize comments into “public concern statements.” A public concern statement represents one unique comment from an individual, or the common concern from numerous people or groups.

BLM’s interdisciplinary team reviewed this list of public concern statements and associated sample statements. They provided written responses to each public concern statement. The Proposed RAMP and Final EIS were revised as needed. A copy of the types of issues identified in the public comment letters and BLM’s response to these issues is included in Appendix A of the Final EIS. A copy of each letter and BLM’s response to each issue identified is available from BLM on a compact disc.

7. ESA Consultation

BLM has determined that one federally threatened plant species, the Peirson's milk-vetch (*Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii*), one federally endangered bird species, the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax trailii extimus*), and one federally threatened reptile species, the desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) occur within the ISDRA planning area. BLM, in conjunction with FWS, determined that the southwestern willow flycatcher would not be affected by the RAMP. Pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA, BLM initiated consultation with the FWS on the effects of the RAMP on the Peirson's milk-vetch and the desert tortoise. BLM's request for formal consultation of the CDCA Plan was received by the FWS on January 31, 2001. BLM's request for consultation on the proposed RAMP, which would amend the CDCA Plan, was received by the FWS on April 15, 2002. A Biological Opinion was issued by the FWS, based, in part, on the CDCA Plan, for the proposed RAMP on April 3, 2003. FWS issued a new Biological Opinion on January 25, 2005. The 2005 Biological Opinion is available on the BLM web site at <http://www.ca.blm.gov/elcentro/Imperial Sand Dunes/index/html>.

8. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 requires consultation between BLM and the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). That consultation was initiated in 2001. In February 2005, SHPO concurred with BLM's approach and supported the development of a programmatic agreement concerning implementation of the RAMP.

Any decisions included in the Plan which have the potential to cause effects to cultural resources will be addressed either through subsequent NEPA and NHPA review or through the alternative procedures to be specified in the programmatic agreement. Other decisions which do not have the potential to cause effects to cultural resources may be put into effect immediately upon approval of the ROD.

9. Consultation with Native Americans

To comply with Executive Orders regarding government-to-government relations with Native Americans, formal and informal contacts were made with a number of tribal entities. Seven Native American tribes with heritage associations with the dunes were contacted in the spring of 2002 for the purpose of conducting consultation. The seven Native American tribes were: the Quechan Tribe, the Colorado River Indian Tribes, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, the eleven Kummeyaay reservations, the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla, and the Morongo Band. In concert with consultation, tribal elders and representatives of these tribes were interviewed concerning heritage values at the dunes.

BLM commissioned a Cultural Landscape Study of the Imperial Sand Dunes that included interviews with elders and representatives of these seven tribes. Members of these tribes were interviewed about present and past connections with the dunes to identify traditional cultural properties and assess the dunes as a cultural landscape. The results of the interviews indicate that the dunes have some cultural significance for contemporary Native

Americans, but do not meet the criteria set forth under the National Register of Historic Places. All groups interviewed expressed concern about damage to the dunes landscape by recreational use.

10. Other Consultations

A number of agencies and interests, including local, State and federal entities have been involved in the development of this plan. BLM coordinated with any agency that expressed an interest in the plan. In addition, BLM's Desert Advisory Council developed a set of resolutions regarding the RAMP in December 2001. The California Department of Fish and Game and BLM also discussed relevant issues during the development of this EIS.

11. Termination of Interim Measures

All of the interim measures identified in the Consent Decree in Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. BLM (C-00-0927 WHA (JCS)) and subject to expiration upon the signing of the ROD for the RAMP are terminated.